



ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: N1085-00191  
[TSMC2003-0246]

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Yi-Hsun Wu et al.

Serial No.: 10/644,718

Group Art Unit: 2858

Filed: 05/28/2003

Examiner: Not Known Yet

Confirmation No. 6119

For: **CIRCUIT AND METHOD FOR ESD PROTECTION**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as First-Class Mail addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

March 16, 2004

Date

Joseph A. Powers

Joseph A. Powers

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Dear Sir:

Enclosed herewith is an Information Disclosure Statement pursuant to 37 CFR.  
§ 1.56 in connection with the above-identified application, which statement is being filed:

- ☐ Together with the present application.
- ☒ Before the first Office Action on the merits or three (3) months from the filing date of this application, whichever occurs last. **[37 CFR § 1.97(b)]**
- ☐ After the first Office Action on the merits, but before a Final Office Action under §1.113 or Notice of Allowance under §1.311, whichever occurs first. **[37 CFR § 1.97(c)]**
- ☐ After a Final Office Action under §1.113 or Notice of Allowance under §1.311, but prior to or with payment of the Issue Fee. **[37 CFR § 1.97(d)]**

Consistent with Applicant's obligations pursuant to 37 CFR §§1.97 and 1.98, the following requirements have been met:

☒ No separate requirements are needed.

☒ No additional fee is required.

☐ **Fee Under 37 CFR § 1.97(c)**

The fee of \$180.00 for submission of an IDS under § 1.97(c) as set forth in § 1.17(p) accompanies this statement.

☐ **Fee Under 37 CFR § 1.97(d)**

The fee of \$180.00 for submission of an information disclosure statement under § 1.97(d) set forth in § 1.17(p) accompanies this statement.

☐ **Certification Under 37 CFR § 1.97(e)**

- ☐ Each item of information contained in this statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement; or
- ☐ No item of information contained in this statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the statement after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this statement was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

**Provision of Copies of References**

☒ A copy of each of the non-U.S. patent references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 is enclosed herewith and forms a part hereof.

☐ Partial Translation is enclosed herewith and form a part hereof.

☐ A copy of the European Search Report from a corresponding or related EPO application is enclosed herewith.


- ☐ A copy of the International Search Report from a corresponding or related PCT application is enclosed herewith.

**Identification of Prior Application(s) In Which Listed Information Was Already Cited And For Which No Copies Are Submitted Or Need Be Submitted**

- ☐ This application relies, under 35 U.S.C. § 120, on the earlier filing date of prior U.S. Application No(s). The following references were submitted to, and/or cited by, the Office in the prior application(s) and therefore are not required to be provided in this application:
- ☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 04-1679. A duplicate copy of this transmittal is attached.

Respectfully submitted,

DATE: March 16, 2004

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Joseph A. Powers  
Registration No. 47,006  
Attorney for Applicant(s)

DUANE MORRIS LLP  
One Liberty Place  
Philadelphia, PA 19103-7396  
Telephone: 215-979-1842  
Fax: 215-979-1020



PTO/SB/08A (02-03)

Approved for use through 04/30/2003. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

**Complete if Known**

Application Number	10/644,718
Filing Date	08/20/2003
First Named Inventor	Yi-Hsun Wu
Art Unit	2858
Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
Attorney Docket Number	N1085-00191

Sheet 1 of 3

**U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
	AA	US- 3,947,778	03-30-1976	Hsiao	
	AB	US- 5,179,297	01-12-1993	Hsueh et al.	
	AC	US- 5,304,867	04-19-1994	Morris	
	AD	US- 5,381,062	01-10-1995	Morris	
	AE	US- 5,418,476	05-23-1995	Strauss	
	AF	US- 5,504,450	04-02-1996	McPartland	
	AG	US- 5,548,241	08-20-1996	McClure	
	AH	US- 5,576,656	11-19-1996	McClure	
	AI	US- 5,581,209	12-03-1996	McClure	
	AJ	US- 5,589,794	12-31-1996	McClure	
	AK	US- 5,594,373	01-14-1997	McClure	
	AL	US- 5,596,297	01-21-1997	McClure et al.	
	AM	US- 5,598,122	01-28-1997	McClure	
	AN	US- 5,663,917	09-02-1997	Oka et al.	
	AO	US- 5,808,480	09-15-1998	Morris	
	AP	US- 5,864,243	01-26-1999	Chen et al.	
	AQ	US- 5,926,056	07-20-1999	Morris et al.	
	AR	US- 5,933,027	08-03-1999	Morris et al.	
	AS	US- 5,952,848	09-14-1999	Morris	

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> - Number <sup>4</sup> - Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				

Examiner  
SignatureDate  
Considered

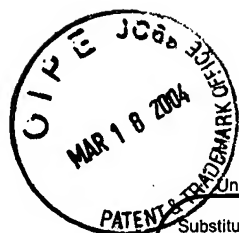
\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.

PH11096304.1





PTO/SB/08B (04-03)

Approved for use through 04/30/2003. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

**Complete if Known**

Application Number	10/644,718
Filing Date	8/20/2003
First Named Inventor	Yi-Hsun Wu
Art Unit	2858
Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
Attorney Docket Number	N1085-00191

Sheet 3 of 3

**NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T <sup>2</sup>
	BA	M. Pelgrom and E. Dijkmans, "A 3/5V compatible I/O Buffer," IEEE Journal of Solid-State Circuits, vol. 30, No. 7, Jul. 1995, p.p. 823-825.	
	BB	N. Otsuka and M. A. Horowitz, "Circuit Techniques for 1.5-V Power Supply Flash Memory", IEEE Journal of Solid-State Circuits, Vol. 32, No. 8, Aug. 1997, p.p. 1217-1230	
	BC	G. Singh and R. Salem, "High-Voltage-Tolerant I/O Buffers with Low-Voltage CMOS Process," IEEE Journal of Solid-State Circuits, vol. 34, No. 11, Nov. 1999, p.p. 1512-1525.	
	BD	L. T. Clark, "A High-Voltage Output Buffer Fabricated on a 2V CMOS Technology," 1999 Symposium on VLSI Circuits Digest of Technical Papers, p.p. 61-62.	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
--------------------	--	-----------------	--

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 120 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.